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STEEL PLANTS MEET NEW NORMS

[Numbers in parentheses refer to appended list of sources.]

In June and early July, Soviet ferrous metallurgy workers began to meet the new norms set recently at the Stalino conference. Savings and high-speed smelting, along with general production increases, were still stressed.

Steelworkers in Donbass metallurgical plants made the best showing in the first week of work according to the new progressive norms. At the Stalino Plant, the progressive norm for production of steel per square meter of hearth was exceeded at each operating furnace.

At the Kramatorsk Plant imeni Kuybyshev, a new and improved system of cooling furnaces was introduced, and the supply of charge to the furnaces was improved, making it possible in the first week to achieve an average production of 6.58 tons of steel per square meter of hearth for the shop, as compared with the norm of 5.1 tons.

At the Yenakiyevo Plant, the blast furnaces were put at forced regimes. A record coefficient of 0.60, as compared with the norm of 0.83, for capacity utilization of the blast furnace was achieved by one brigade at this plant.(1) At blast furnace No 4, one worker achieved a coefficient of 0.81 for May and 10 days of June as compared with the planned 0.85.(2) The Yenakiyevo Plant is the first in the South to introduce high-speed methods of smelting Bessemer steel.

Stakhanovites at the "Azovstal'" Plant are also increasing output of steel and decreasing its cost in operating tilting open-hearth furnace No 3.(3) Steelworkers at "Azovstal'," who 3 years ago started the Stalino Oblast competition for high-speed melts, have increased the production of steel to 9-10 tons per square meter of hearth, as compared with the average 4.5 tons achieved at these same furnaces before the war.

Blast-furnace operators at the Makeyevka Plant imeni Kirov have obtained a coefficient of 0.83-0.87 for capacity utilization of the furnace.(2)

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Chromomagnesite roofs have been installed in all furnaces of open-hearth shop No 3 of the Plant imeni Petrovskiy. In June, the average production of steel per square meter of hearth was 6.3 tons, as compared with 6 tons according to the new progressive norm.(4) Steelworkers at the plant's open-hearth furnace No 3 of open-hearth shop No 1 have achieved an average production of 8.8 tons of steel per square meter of hearth, as compared with the new norm of 6 tons.(5)

The pipe-rolling shop of the Metallurgical Plant imeni Lenin recently started production of many new types of pipe for machine building.(4)

A Stakhanovite steelworker at the Plant imeni Dzerzhinskiy recently exceeded the progressive norms, adopted at the recent conference in Stalino, by 1½ times. He completed a high-speed melt one hour ahead of schedule and obtained 11.21 tons of steel per square meter of hearth.(6) This worker regularly obtains 10 tons of steel, as compared with the norm of 6.15 tons.(7)

The electric-steel smelting shop of the "Krasnyy Oktyabr'" Plant in Stalingrad fulfilled the 6-month plan on 4 June.(8)

The Kazakh Metallurgical Plant recently achieved a record high production of steel and rolled metal. One brigade in the open-hearth shop completed a heavy-weight melt in 5 hours 50 minutes, speeding the process some 2½ hours. The production of steel in this high-speed melt was 8.3 tons per square meter of hearth, as compared with the norm of 3.99 tons.(9) In the open-hearth shop, the weight of each melt now exceeds the norm by 18 percent. The plant has completed the 6-month plan for steel smelting and output of rolled metal, and since the beginning of the year has saved 4,200,000 rubles above plan.(10)

On 30 June, the Kuznetsk Combine completed the 6-month plan for the entire metallurgical cycle. The blast-furnace shop took the lead, achieving a high coefficient for blast-furnace operation. In June, workers at furnace No 3 achieved a coefficient of 0.78 as compared with the norm of 0.82. In the last 2 months, the combine has saved more than 5 million rubles by decreasing costs.

On 29 June, the Magnitogorsk Metallurgical Combine completed the 6-month plan for the entire production cycle.(11) At the combine's "300" rolling mill No 2, workers have speeded the changing of the rollers, taking 9 minutes as compared with the norm of 25 minutes. The time saved in this high-speed roller changing has increased the productive time of the mill by almost one hour per shift.(12)

In the Urals, the sheet-rolling shop at the Novo-Tagil'skiy Plant has started producing plates for the high-buildings under construction in Moscow. The plates are particularly durable, and the order for them is being met from saved materials.(1)

The metal structures plant in Orsk, Chkalov Oblast, is known as a supplier of gas reservoirs and span structures for bridges. Beginning during the war with the manufacture of small span structures, the plant has since gone over to series production of standard heavy bridge span structures for bridges now standing on the Western Dvina, the Don, and on rivers in the Ukraine, Urals, and other places. The spans are used on many railroad systems. If the plant's output during only one year were joined, it would extend about 16 kilometers. Not long ago, the plant began series production of welded span structures for railroad bridges. These welded spans have great advantages over the usual riveted spans, which require about 15,000 rivets. Welding reduces the plant's expenditures by 25 percent. In May, the plant finished assembling the first welded bridge span structure.(13)

In Udmurt ASSR, the leading steel brigade at the Izhevsk Metallurgical Plant recently set a new record by completing a melt in 5 hours 25 minutes, as compared with the norm of 9 hours, and obtained 10.1 tons of high-quality steel per square meter of open-hearth furnace hearth, as compared with the norm of 4.3 tons.(14)

In 1949, production of pig iron in Bashkir ASSR increased 13 percent over 1948; steel, 20 percent. In 4 months of 1950, the increase in gross production by the metallurgical industry was 14 percent over the same period in 1949.(15)

The Latvian SSR metallurgical industry has also steadily increased its output. With 1940 steel production at 100 percent, 1950 steel production in the republic is 160 percent.(16)

The competition for savings begun one month ago between the steelworkers of the "Serp i molot" Plant (Moscow) and the Kirov Plant (Leningrad) has had outstanding results. In open-hearth shop No 1, "Serp i molot," the steelworkers saved sufficient pig iron for 30 melts and sufficient ferromanganese for a dozen or more melts. The Leningrad workers in one month saved enough pig iron for 26 additional melts and enough magnesite and ferromanganese for 20 melts.(17)

The "Serp i molot" Plant has developed a new method of smelting stainless and other high-alloy steels from waste products of the same grades of steel, a feat never before undertaken in open-hearth shops. A large quantity of ferro-alloys is saved, and the steel smelting process sharply speeded.(10) In the plant's open-hearth shop No 2, a steelworker has been exceeding previous records by bringing the production of steel per square meter of hearth to 17.6 tons for 2 days in June. This is considerably higher than the average achieved in Soviet metallurgical plants.(18) Open-hearth furnace No 6 has been run for 302 melts without repair, a new record for the plant.(19)

The Novo-Tul'skiy Metallurgical Plant has improved the coefficient for capacity utilization of blast furnaces to 0.98, thus fulfilling its pledges, made at the conference in Stalino, to increase progressive norms.(20)

At the beginning of 1949, the number of high-speed melts in Leningrad metallurgical shops was only 15-20 percent of the total number of melts. Now the proportion has increased to almost 70 percent, and in some open-hearth shops is as high as 90 percent.(21)

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5. Pravda Ukrainy, No 162, 11 Jul 50
6. Trud, No 134, 7 Jun 50
7. Pravda Ukrainy, No 133, 7 Jun 50
8. Trud, No 143, 17 Jun 50
9. Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, No 124, 11 Jun 50
10. Leningradskaya Pravda, No 137, 11 Jun 50

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11. Trud, No 156, 2 Jul 50

12. Trud, No 151, 27 Jun 50

13. Gudok, No 67, 4 Jun 50

14. Krasnaya Zvezda, No 135, 8 Jun 50

15. Izvestiya, No 143, 17 Jun 50

16. Sovetskaya Latviya, No 137, 11 Jun 50

17. Izvestiya, No 136, 9 Jun 50

18. Leningradskaya Pravda, No 133, 7 Jun 50

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20. Trud, No 160, 7 Jul 50

21. Trud, No 135, 8 Jun 50

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